

PATENT

REMARKS

In the Final Office action dated October 25, 2005, claims 1-20 were examined, all of which were rejected. More specifically, claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated U.S. Patent No. 5,812,798 (hereinafter Moyer) and claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination U.S. Patent No. 5,255,374 (hereinafter "Aldereguia") and Moyer.

This amendment is being submitted following the Final Rejection mailed on October 25, 2005, and after the Notice of Appeal filed on January 25, 2006, but before filing of an appeal brief under 37 C.F.R. §41.37. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of dependent claim 18 and canceled dependent claims 2-7 and 18. Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment as it places the rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal and reduces the issues under appeal, as dependent claims 2-7 and 18 have been canceled.

Claims 1, 8-17, 19 and 20 are in the case. All claims are believed to be allowable over the applied art of record, and a Notice of Allowance to that effect is respectfully solicited. Nonetheless, if any issues remain that could be more efficiently handled by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

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03-03-06
Date

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Date

Respectfully submitted,



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